



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

March 7, 2002

RECEIVED

#12/Response

Hawkins

MAR 25 2002

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

4/5/02

Applicant(s): Yoshio SATO

For: DRIVING UNIT OF A WELDING EQUIPMENT

Serial No.: 09/533 554

Group: 2834

Confirmation No.: 8275

Filed: March 22, 2000

Examiner: Perez

International Application No.: N/A

International Filing Date: N/A

Atty. Docket No.: OPS C486

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 10, 2001,
Applicant responds as follows.

REMARKS

The only issue remaining in this application is the rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 12-15 and 20 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over Claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6 223 971. U.S. Patent No. 6 223 971 is commonly owned and has the same inventor as this application. Attached is a Terminal Disclaimer obviating the above rejection.

Therefore, Claims 1, 3-5, 12-15 and 20 are now believed allowable.

A check for \$55.00 is included herein for the disclaimer fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1382. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Further and favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Tumm

for Dale H. Thiel

IN DUPLICATE

DHT/R/km

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL
& TANIS, P.C.
2026 Rambling Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1699
Phone: (616) 381-1156
Fax: (616) 381-5465

Dale H. Thiel	Reg. No. 24 323
David G. Boutell	Reg. No. 25 072
Ronald J. Tanis	Reg. No. 22 724
Terryence F. Chapman	Reg. No. 32 549
Mark L. Maki	Reg. No. 36 589
David S. Goldenberg	Reg. No. 31 257
Sidney B. Williams, Jr.	Reg. No. 24 949
Liane L. Churney	Reg. No. 40 694
Brian R. Tumm	Reg. No. 36 328
Tricia R. Cobb	Reg. No. 44 621

Encls: Terminal Disclaimer

Check (\$55.00)

Postal Card